

proposed action and concludes that the proposed exemptions would not increase the probability or consequences of accidents previously analyzed and would not affect facility radiation levels or facility radiological effluents.

The proposed action will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential non-radiological impacts, the proposed action does not involve any historic sites. It does not affect non-radiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant non-radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (i.e., the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for Byron Station, Units 1 and 2.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

In accordance with its stated policy, on February 4, 1999, the staff consulted with the Illinois State official, Mr. Frank Niziolek, of the Illinois Department of Nuclear Safety, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter

dated October 22, 1998, which is available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, The Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Byron Public Library District, 109 N. Franklin, P.O. Box 434, Byron, Illinois 61010.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of February 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Stuart A. Richards,

Director, Project Directorate III-2, Division of Reactor Projects—III/IV, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

ASME Presentation on a "Standard for Probabilistic Risk Assessment for Nuclear Power Plant Applications"; Meeting

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: NRC has been supporting an ASME effort to develop a "Standard for Probabilistic Risk Assessment for Nuclear Power Plant Applications." ASME has issued a draft of this standard for review and comment. The purpose of this standard is to provide a way to ensure that the technical quality of a PRA used to support a risk-informed application is adequate for that application, such that the level of regulatory review needed for approval of that application is minimized. This standard, therefore, provides requirements for a reference PRA, documentation, configuration control (of the PRA), and peer review and criteria for determining the extent to which the reference PRA technical elements are necessary and sufficient to support a particular risk-informed application.

The NRC is hosting a workshop where ASME will describe the approach used in writing the standard, the contents of the standard, etc., and so that the public can meet with the ASME team. Chairman Jackson will be making some introductory remarks at the workshop. The workshop is open to the public and all interested parties are invited to attend.

DATES: March 16, 1999, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.

ADDRESSES: Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Two White Flint North

Auditorium, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Drouin, Mail Stop T10-E50, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20005-0001. Telephone: (301) 415-6675; FAX: (301) 415-5062; Internet: mxd@NRC.GOV.

For material related to the meeting, please access the ASME website at www.asme.org or contact Jess Moon at ASME, 3 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10016. Telephone: (212) 591-8514; FAX: (212) 591-7196; Internet: moonj@asme.org.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Attendees are requested to notify Gloria Corbitt at (301) 415-2100 of their planned attendance if special services, such as for the hearing impaired, are necessary.

The NRC is accessible to the White Flint Metro Station. Attendees are strongly encouraged to use Metrorail as visitor parking near the NRC buildings is very limited. Visitors may enter either NRC building and stop at the guard's desk for directions to the auditorium.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 22nd day of February, 1999.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Mary Drouin,

Acting Chief, Probabilistic Risk Analysis Branch, Division of Systems Technology, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.

[FR Doc. 99-4811 Filed 2-25-99; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 35-26979]

Filings Under the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, as Amended ("Act")

February 19, 1999.

Notice is hereby given that the following filing(s) has/have been made with the Commission pursuant to provisions of the Act and rules promulgated under the Act. All interested persons are referred to the applications(s) and/or declaration(s) for complete statements of the proposed transaction(s) summarized below. The application(s) and/or declaration(s) and any amendments is/are available for public inspection through the Commission's Office of Public Reference.

Interested persons wishing to comment or request a hearing on the application(s) and/or declaration(s) should submit their views in writing by March 16, 1999, to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission,